



HR0266

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 150th anniversary for Regional  
3 Superintendents of Schools in Illinois, represented by the  
4 Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Regional Superintendents of Schools have a rich  
7 history of serving as an essential support office between the  
8 Illinois State Board of Education and local school districts;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, The office of County Superintendent of Schools was  
11 created as a predecessor for Regional Superintendents of  
12 Schools by State law in 1865; the County Superintendent was to  
13 serve 4 years in office and was required to visit each school  
14 in the county at least once a year; and

15           WHEREAS, These first County Superintendents were also  
16 allowed to sell school lands, were given the custody of all  
17 county school funds, and were the official advisers of school  
18 officers and teachers in their counties and the agents of the  
19 State Superintendent of Schools in reaching schools; and

20           WHEREAS, Duties for County Superintendents grew  
21 significantly over the next several decades, including to

1 oversee the difficult process of large-scale school  
2 consolidations in the 1950s; and

3 WHEREAS, County Superintendents shrank from 102 offices to  
4 78 and became Regional Superintendents in 1973; further  
5 consolidation dropped the number of offices to 57 in 1977; and

6 WHEREAS, Further consolidation will reduce the number of  
7 Regional Offices of Education to 35 in July of 2015, along with  
8 3 Intermediate Service Centers that serve schools in Cook  
9 County outside Chicago; and

10 WHEREAS, As Regional Superintendents of Schools turn 150  
11 this year, they are a vital part of educational success for  
12 students in every county of Illinois; and

13 WHEREAS, Regional Superintendents of Schools are committed  
14 to providing 3 pillars of exceptional service to students,  
15 educators, and parents: (1) safety, by inspecting school  
16 buildings and ensuring school bus drivers are trained and  
17 teachers have proper background checks and fingerprints; (2)  
18 support, by licensing educators and providing top-notch  
19 professional development services; and (3) success, by  
20 providing safe schools and administering high school  
21 equivalency examinations and certificates; therefore, be it

1           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
2           NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
3           recognize and congratulate the members of the Illinois  
4           Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools on their  
5           sesquicentennial celebration; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
7           presented to the leadership at the Illinois Association of  
8           Regional Superintendents of Schools as an expression of our  
9           esteem and respect.